

VZCZCXRO2251

OO RUEHAG RUEHAO RUEHBC RUEHBI RUEHCD RUEHCHI RUEHCI RUEHCN RUEHDE
RUEHDT RUEH DU RUEHFK RUEHFL RUEHGA RUEHGD RUEHGH RUEHHA RUEHHM RUEH HO
RUEHHT RUEHIHL RUEHKN RUEHKSO RUEHKUK RUEHKW RUEHLA RUEHLH RUEHMC
RUEH MJ RUEHMR RUEHMR RUEHMT RUEHNG RUEHNH RUEHNL RUEHNP RUEHPA RUEHPB
RUEHPT RUEHPW RUEHQ RUEHRD RUEHRG RUEHRN RUEHROV RUEHRS RUEHTM

RUEHTRO RUEHVC

DE RUEHC #8251/01 2291327

ZNY SSSSS ZZH

O 161322Z AUG 08

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO ALL DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR POSTS COLLECTIVE IMMEDIATE

INFO RUEHTRO/AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI IMMEDIATE 2280

RHEHAAA/WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE 3502

RHEHNSC/NSC WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE 1252

RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE

RHMFIS/JJOINT STAFF WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE

RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHINGTON DC//USD:SOLIC// IMMEDIATE

RHRMAKS/COMFIFTHFLT IMMEDIATE

RHMFIS/COMSIXTHFLT IMMEDIATE

RHMFIS/NGA HQ BETHESDA MD IMMEDIATE

RHMFIS/COMSOCEUR VAIHINGEN GE IMMEDIATE

RHHJJAA/JICPAC PEARL HONOLULU HI IMMEDIATE

RHHMUNA/HQ USPACOM HONOLULU HI IMMEDIATE

RHMFIS/CDR USSOCOM MACDILL AFB FL IMMEDIATE

RHMFIS/CDR USCENTCOM MACDILL AFB FL IMMEDIATE

RHMFIS/CDR USJFCOM NORFOLK VA IMMEDIATE

RHMFIS/CDR USEUCOM VAIHINGEN GE IMMEDIATE

RUEADWD/HQ DA WASHINGTON DC//DAPE:PRO// IMMEDIATE

RUEADWD/HQ DA WASHINGTON DC//DAPE-PRR-C// IMMEDIATE

RUEADWD/HQ DA WASHINGTON DC//DAPE:MO// IMMEDIATE

RUEADWD/DA WASHINGTON DC//DAMO-AOC-CAT//PCC// IMMEDIATE

RHMFIS/CDR USSTRATCOM OFFUTT AFB NE IMMEDIATE

RHEFDIA/DIA WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE

RHEFDIA/DIA WASHINGTON DC//TWC// IMMEDIATE

RUEKJCS/JOINT STAFF WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE

RUEKJCS/JOINT STAFF WASHINGTON DC//J-3:JOD// IMMEDIATE

RUEKJCS/JOINT STAFF WASHINGTON DC//J-1//J-3:JOD// IMMEDIATE

RHMFIS/CDR USSOUTHCOM MIAMI FL IMMEDIATE

RUMIAAA/HQ USSOUTHCOM J2 MIAMI FL IMMEDIATE

RHMFIS/HQ USSOUTHCOM J3 MIAMI FL IMMEDIATE

RUEAIIA/CIA WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE 6493

RHMCSUU/FBI WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE 0795

S E C R E T SECTION 01 OF 02 STATE 088251

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 08/16/18

TAGS: [AEMR](#) [ASEC](#) [CASC](#) [KFLO](#) [MARR](#) [PREL](#) [PINR](#) [AMGT](#) [CD](#)

SUBJECT: TFGG01: GEORGIA TASK FORCE SITUATION REPORT NO.

17

CLASSIFIED BY:, DANA MURRAY, SENIOR WATCH OFFICER, S/ES-
O, REASON 1.4(D)

RUSSIAN FORCES REMAIN NEAR GEORGIAN CAPITAL

1. (SBU) Russian troops blew up a bridge at Kaspi, a
main railroad link between Tbilisi and Gori. According
to DAS Matt Bryza, this attack could destabilize the
Georgian economy and complicate humanitarian assistance
efforts. (TF/Embassy Tbilisi e-mail)

2. (SBU) Russian armored personnel carriers and troops
remained entrenched in Georgian territory overnight,
including within 25 miles of Tbilisi. There are reports
of fires near Borjomi National Park. (TF/Embassy Tbilisi
telcon)

3. (S) Russian military forces established a checkpoint
in the Georgian town of Khashuri, about 15 kilometers
west of Gori. (CIA Sitrep)

RUSSIAN RESPONSE TO CEASE-FIRE DEAL

¶4. (SBU) President Medvedev signed the cease-fire agreement. (Reuters)

¶5. (SBU) OSCE Chairman in Office Stubb, will try to enter Tskhinvali August 17 via Vladikavkaz in North Ossetia. (TF/Embassy Moscow/Embassy Tbilisi telcon)

HIGH-LEVEL VISITS

¶6. (SBU) German Chancellor Merkel and Richard Holbrooke plan separate trips to Georgia August 17. (TF/Embassy Tbilisi telcon)

¶7. (SBU) Congressman Chris Smith (R-NJ) plans to visit Georgia. No date has been set. (TF/EUR/PGI telcon)

¶8. (SBU) UK opposition leader David Cameron is in Georgia; UK FS Miliband will visit Georgia following August 19 NAC meetings. (TF/Embassy Tbilisi telcon)

¶9. (SBU) The UN High Commissioner for Refugees Guterres, will visit Tbilisi August 18-19. (TF/EUR e-mail)

ASSISTANCE TO SOUTH OSSETIA BYPASSES GEORGIAN GOVERNMENT

¶10. (U) A team of one hundred volunteers from Vladikavkaz in North Ossetia arrived August 16 in South Ossetia to repair water pipelines and a transformer substation, which supplies electric power to Tshkinvali.

STATE 00088251 002 OF 002

(ITAR-TASS)

¶11. (U) The Kazakh Ministry of Emergency Situations pledged 100 tons of humanitarian aid to South Ossetia. Medicine, clothes, and food were shipped from Almaty to Vladikavkaz by train. (ITAR-TASS)

AMCIT UPDATE; TBILISI COMMERCIAL FLIGHTS RESUME

¶12. (SBU) The father of two AmCit girls in Chiatura is en route to London and hoping to fly to Yerevan. According to Congressman Smith, FOX News is no longer involved in the case. Embassy London will offer to assist the father in contacting his daughters. (TF/Embassy London telcon)

¶13. (SBU) Baltic Air and Ukranian Air have resumed commercial flights from Tbilisi. Lufthansa will reportedly resume operations. (TF/Embassy Tbilisi telcon)

¶14. (U) Minimize considered.
RICE